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INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

ACTION PLAN MEETING – MAY 25, 2016 – COMMITTEE ON FAMILIES



MISSION

The mission of the ICHH Committee on Families is to design and initiate the development of a local response to families in crisis facing homelessness by resourcing and supporting the work of regional networks of providers. Local providers and community partners are in the best position to identify housing instability and to provide a timely and targeted intervention which will prevent homelessness and support better outcomes for families in their communities.

WORK TO DATE

- DHCD has invested in several strategic prevention , diversion and exit strategies that have reduced significantly the use of hotels and motels for sheltering.
- DHCD, EOHHS and ICHH and provider agencies have partnered with the Public consulting Group to evaluate and make recommendations for re-design of EA shelter system.
- EOHHS issued RFR for funding local consortiums to establish coordinated entry system and support new housing and programming for unaccompanied homeless youth.



- Reduction in use of hotels and motels by 62%, reduction in EEA shelter caseload by 15%.

Completed report from PCG which provides principles and roadmap for re-design of EA family shelter system based on principles of local response, triage, assessment, prevention and rapid re-housing strategies.

- EOHHS has concluded procurement to fund local consortiums who are creating regional coordinated entry systems, using flex funds to support housing stability and supporting the creation of homeless youth programming across the state.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONGOING WORK

DHCD with support from local providers and EOHHS agencies will continue to expand current strategic prevention, diversion and exit strategies to reduce the use of hotels and motels.

EOHHS will monitor and evaluate the work of the consortium and the use of flexible funds for the prevention and rapid re-housing of families at risk of homelessness.

DHCD, EOHHS and ICHH will fund the engagement of a consultant to provide support for the analysis and development of specific strategies in the implementation of a EA system re-design including evaluation of legal, regulatory and budgetary challenges.

The ICHH Committee on Families will engage stakeholders and agencies across the state serving families in a process of engagement regarding EA shelter system reform.

The Commonwealth will craft a procurement of Emergency Assistance Services and funding for families which local response of service delivery and interventions will meet the goals of the Mission.



MEMBERSHIP

1. Deb Chausse, House of Hope
2. Karen Frederick, Community Teamwork
3. Susanne Beaton, Fireman Foundation
4. Chris Norris, MBHP
5. Gerry McCafferty, City of Springfield
6. Susan Gentili, SMOC
7. Linda Weinreb, Umass Medical
8. Leslie Lawrence, Emmaus
9. Kory Eng, United Way
10. Elizabeth Doyle, DND
11. Linda Wood-Boyle, Project Hope
12. Liz Rogers, Father Bill's & MainSpring
13. Rachel Heller, CHAPA
14. Kelly Turley, Mass Coalition for the Homeless
15. Melissa Marlowe, DPH
16. Cheryl Kennedy-Perez, DPH
17. Libby Hayes, HFF
18. Sarah Slautterback, ESE
19. Amy Mullen, DCF
20. Sue Nohl, MBHP
21. Maureen Fitzgerald, RHN
22. Becky Koepnick, TBF
23. Gail Livingston, BHA
24. Rose Evans, DHCD
25. Ita Mullarkey, DHCD
26. Linn Torto, ICHH